

TUSCANY

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WELCOME TO TUSCANY

Tuscany (Toscana in Italian) is a region in central Italy, bordering on Latium to the south, Umbria and Marche to the east, Emilia-Romagna and Liguria to the north, and the Tyrrhenian Sea to the west.

Tuscany is often regarded as high-ranking among the most beautiful parts of Italy, and tourism is the economic backbone of the region.

Tuscany was essentially the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance, and its artistic heritage includes architecture, painting and sculpture, collected in dozens of museums, the best-known of which is the Uffizi in Florence and in situ in even quite small cities.

Notable tourist destinations in Tuscany include Florence, Siena, Pisa, Lucca, Arezzo, Barga, Cortona, Volterra, San Gimignano, Montepulciano, the Crete Senesi and Valdorcia, Lunigiana and Garfagnana areas, as well as the seaside resorts of Versilia, Maremma and the island of Elba.

Skiing is a popular winter activity on the Pistoiese Appenines and Tuscany boasts as many as 120 protected nature reserves.

Tuscany is noted for the production of wine (notably Chianti, Morellino di Scansano, Brunello di Montalcino, Nobile di Montepulciano and Vernaccia di San Gimignano).

Agricultural produce also includes cattle (particularly the famous 'Fiorentina' steak from the 'Chianina' breed) and a very fine olive oil, principally from Lucca and the surrounding hills.

Worth mentioning is also the quarrying of unsurpassed white marble in Versilia, Garfagnana and in the Alpi Apuane, into which many of Michelangelo's masterpieces were sculpted.

[source: photo by Maddalena Delli for K-words.it]

MAP



SITE INDEX

CITIES

Florence
Arezzo
Lucca
Pisa
Prato
Siena

TOWNS

Bagno Vignoni
Barga
Cortona
Fiesole
Impruneta
Lastra a Signa
Montalcino
Montepulciano
Monteriggioni
Pienza
Rufina
San Galgano
San Gimignano
San Miniato
Sarteano
Volterra

AREAS

Chianti
Mugello
Versilia

ITINERARIES

Wine trails

SHOPPING

Markets
Crafts
Fashion outlets



GOOGLE SEARCH

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UTILITIES

Bookshop
Weather
Maps
Transportation
Distances

FREEBIES

Desktop Wallpapers
Cards

VALID CODE



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Step 1: Select Dates

Check-in:

Check-out:

Step 2: Select City

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Bologna | <input type="radio"/> Catania |
| <input type="radio"/> Jesolo | <input type="radio"/> Lucca |
| <input type="radio"/> Naples | <input type="radio"/> Palermo |
| <input type="radio"/> Rome | <input type="radio"/> Siracusa |
| <input type="radio"/> Turin | <input type="radio"/> Venice |

☐ Another City:

Search Ho

Search by hotel name | B

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EVENTS

Folklore
Sports
Art exhibitions in Florence
Art shows in Tuscany

FOOD AND WINE

Eating Out
Tuscan food and drink

GETTING THERE

Airports
Rail transportation
Bus services
Car rentals



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Why and when to visit Florence and Tuscany
What to see in Tuscany, its cities, towns, art and countryside
Where to go: special interest itineraries and visit ideas
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Accommodation options and where to stay in Florence and Tuscany
A taste of Tuscany: typical cuisine, fresh local produce and glorious wines
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